

LP, Ketchikan, Alaska; Carlton N. Owen, U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities, Greenville, South Carolina; Mark L. Peck, Lincoln County Montana County Commissioner, Libby; and Duane Vaagen, Vaagen Brothers Lumber Company, Colville, Washington.

### SECURING THE BORDER

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine securing the border, focusing on assessing the impact of transnational crime, after receiving testimony from Elizabeth Kempshall, Executive Director, Arizona Region of the Southwest Border High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, Office of National Drug Control Policy; Bryan Costigan, Montana Department of Justice Division of Criminal Investigation Supervisory Agent, Helena, on behalf of the National Fusion Center Association; Benny Martinez, Brooks County Chief Deputy Sheriff, Falfurrias, Texas; General Barry R. McCaffrey, USA (Ret.), former Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, Seattle, Washington; and John P. Torres, former Deputy Director, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, Washington, D.C.

### ADVANCING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOR PATIENTS

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine continuing America's leadership, focusing on advancing research and development for patients, after receiving testimony from Bruce A. Sullenger, Duke University

Medical Center Duke Translational Research Institute, Durham, North Carolina; Alexis Borisy, Third Rock Ventures, Boston, Massachusetts; Michael A. Mussallem, Edwards Lifesciences, Irvine, California; and Allan Coukell, The Pew Charitable Trusts, Washington, D.C.

### NOMINATION

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Sally Quillian Yates, of Georgia, to be Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Isakson and Perdue, and Representative Lewis, testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

### VETERANS CHOICE ACT

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Veterans Choice Act, focusing on exploring the distance criteria, after receiving testimony from Sloan Gibson, Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs; and Roscoe Butler, The American Legion, Peter B. Hegseth, Concerned Veterans for America, Joseph A. Violante, DAV, Bill Rausch, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, and Carlos Fuentes, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, all of Washington, D.C.

### INTELLIGENCE

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

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## House of Representatives

### Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 40 public bills, H.R. 2, 1557–1595; 1 private bill, H.R. 1596; and 6 resolutions, and H. Res. 165–170, were introduced. **Pages H1898–1900**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H1901–02**

**Reports Filed:** There were no reports filed today.

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Foxx to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1851**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 9:01 a.m. and reconvened at 10 a.m. **Page H1851**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 10:31 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H1855**

**Guest Chaplain:** The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Reverend Dennis Fountain, Moses Lake Baptist Church, Moses Lake, Washington. **Page H1855**

**Journal:** The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 254 yeas to 156 nays with one answering "present", Roll No. 135. **Pages H1855, H1870**

**Committee Resignation:** Read a letter from Representative Palazzo wherein he resigned from the Committees on Armed Services and Homeland Security. **Page H1855**

**Committee Elections:** The House agreed to H. Res. 165, electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives. **Page H1855**

**Suspension—Proceedings Resumed:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated on Monday, March 23rd:

***Department of Veterans Affairs Budget Planning Reform Act of 2015:*** H.R. 216, amended, to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a Future-Years Veterans Program and a quadrennial veterans review, and to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs a Chief Strategy Officer, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yeas-and-nays vote of 420 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 134. **Pages H1869–70**

**Establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025:** The House began consideration of H. Con. Res. 27, establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025. Further proceedings were postponed. **Pages H1858–95**

H. Res. 163, the rule providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 27), was agreed to by a yeas-and-nays vote of 237 yeas to 180 nays with one answering “present”, Roll No. 133, after the previous question was ordered by a yeas-and-nays vote of 238 yeas to 180 nays, Roll No. 132. **Pages H1858–70**

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

***Designating the Federal building located at 2030 Southwest 145th Avenue in Miramar, Florida, as the “Benjamin P. Grogan and Jerry L. Dove Federal Bureau of Investigation Miami Field Office”:*** H.R. 1092, amended, to designate the Federal building located at 2030 Southwest 145th Avenue in Miramar, Florida, as the “Benjamin P. Grogan and Jerry L. Dove Federal Bureau of Investigation Miami Field Office”; **Pages H1895–97**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To designate the Federal building located at 2030 Southwest 145th Avenue in Miramar, Florida, as the ‘Benjamin P. Grogan and Jerry L. Dove Federal Building’.”. **Page H1897**

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H1858.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Four yeas-and-nays votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1868, H1868–69, H1869–70, and H1870. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### EXAMINATION OF THE COSTS AND IMPACTS OF MANDATORY BIOTECHNOLOGY LAWS

*Committee on Agriculture:* Full Committee held a hearing on examination of the costs and impacts of mandatory biotechnology laws. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### REAUTHORIZING THE CFTC: END-USER VIEWS

*Committee on Agriculture:* Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit held a hearing on reauthorizing the CFTC: end-user views. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### APPROPRIATIONS—AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE PUBLIC AND OUTSIDE WITNESS DAY

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing for American Indian and Alaska Native public and outside witnesses. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AGENCIES

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Department of Agriculture Research Agencies budget. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Agriculture officials: Catherine E. Woteki, Under Secretary, Research, Education and Economics; Chavonda Jacobs-Young, Administrator, Agriculture Research Service; Sonny Ramaswamy, Director, National Institute of Food and Agriculture; Mary Bohman, Administrator, Economic Research Service; Joseph Reilly, Administrator, National Agriculture Statistics Service; and Michael Young, Budget Officer.

### APPROPRIATIONS—MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing on Missile Defense Agency budget. Testimony was heard from Vice Admiral James D. Syring, Director, Missile Defense Agency. This hearing was closed.

### APPROPRIATIONS—NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development held a hearing on Nuclear Regulatory Commission budget. Testimony was